

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 870

To amend title 11 of the United States Code to treat Puerto Rico as a State for purposes of chapter 9 of such title relating to the adjustment of debts of municipalities.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2015

Mr. PIERLUISI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 11 of the United States Code to treat Puerto Rico as a State for purposes of chapter 9 of such title relating to the adjustment of debts of municipalities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Puerto Rico Chapter  
5 9 Uniformity Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT.**

7 Section 101(52) of title 11, United States Code, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

1           “(52) The term ‘State’ includes Puerto Rico  
2           and, except for the purpose of defining who may be  
3           a debtor under chapter 9 of this title, includes the  
4           District of Columbia.”.

5 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION OF AMENDMENT.**

6           (a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in sub-  
7           section (b), this Act and the amendment made by this Act  
8           shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

9           (b) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENT.—The amendment  
10          made by this Act shall apply with respect to—

11           (1) cases commenced under title 11 of the  
12          United States Code on or after the date of the en-  
13          actment of this Act, and

14           (2) debts, claims, and liens created before, on,  
15          or after such date.

16 **SEC. 4. SEVERABILITY.**

17          If any provision of this Act, or the application of such  
18          provision to any person or circumstance, is found to be  
19          unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, or the applica-  
20          tion of that provision to other persons or circumstances,  
21          shall not be affected.

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